

# Census 2020 FAQs

CENSUS MEANS  
RESOURCES  
FOR MY  
COMMUNITY

Housing

Healthcare

Roads

Schools

Transportation

Firefighters

## What is Census?

The U.S. Constitution requires the government to count every person living in the United States every 10 years. Everyone must be counted, including babies, children, noncitizens, and elders. Every household is required to complete a short Census form in the spring of 2020, and it can be done online, by phone, or on a paper form.

## Participating in the Census is our right and our responsibility!

### Why is the Census Important?

Census data helps fund important government programs and determines our political voice:

- Accurate data on the number of people living in the United States helps the government decide how to give out \$800 billion in federal funding every year to states, counties, and cities. This includes money for programs like Medicaid, Section 8, Head Start, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and local schools.
- Accurate Census data determines how many representatives we have in Congress, and helps us get fair representation in state and local government.

### Is Census Data Private?

YES! Under the law, the personal information you provide on the Census form is confidential and cannot be shared with other government agencies, including law enforcement, immigration authorities, courts, and housing authorities or landlords.

### Does the Census Ask About Citizenship?

NO! The Supreme Court has blocked the Trump Administration's attempt to include a citizenship question on the Census form. A citizenship question cannot be added to the Census form in 2020.



SAN DIEGO AND IMPERIAL COUNTIES  
CENSUS OUTREACH COALITION



Get Counted!



countme2020.org





## When and How Do I Complete My Census Form?

The Census will start in March 2020, when you will be able to fill out a short, 8-question form online, by phone, or by requesting a paper form.

- Online: In mid-March, every household will receive a postcard inviting them to complete the Census online or using a smartphone using the unique code on the postcard. There is only one Census form that needs to be completed for each household, but it should include everyone who lives in your household.

OR

- By phone: There will be a phone on the postcard that you can call if you want to complete the Census by phone.

OR

- By mail: You can call and ask for a paper Census form to be mailed to you. If you have not completed the Census by mid-April, a paper form will automatically be mailed to you.

OR

- In person: If your household does not complete the Census form by the end of April, the Census Bureau will send a person called an “enumerator” to your home to make sure everyone gets counted.

**Make sure EVERYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS COUNTED, including babies, children, noncitizens, and elders!**

## What If I Need the Form In a Different Language or Need Help Filling Out the Form?

The online Census form will be available in 12 additional languages: Arabic, French, Vietnamese, Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Russian, Korean, Russian, Haitian Creole, Japanese, Portuguese, and Polish. You can also complete the form by phone in these languages using the phone number on the postcard you get from the Census Bureau in March 2020.

OR

Beginning in March 2020, the Refugee & Immigrant Hub will have Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QAC) across San Diego County where you can get help completing your Census form from staff in 14 different languages. For a list of languages and QAC locations, please visit [www.panasd.org/census/](http://www.panasd.org/census/)

*Questions or need help with the Census? Visit [www.panasd.org/census/](http://www.panasd.org/census/) or call 619-363-4750.*

